National Park Service U.S. Department of the Interior

NPS *Uni***Guide** Standards: Volume 2 Roadway Signs

Chapter 1

Introduction

1Introduction

1.0 Roadway Signs

This category includes three kinds of signs: Road/Highway Guide Signs, Pathfinders and Park Boundary Signs, and MUTCD Regulatory and Warning Signs.

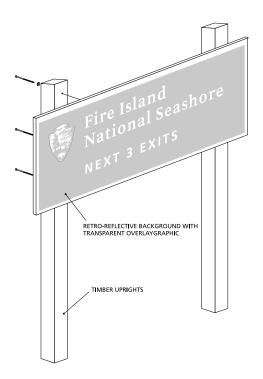
A distinctive system to guide motorists to park entrances and along park roadways, these signs use new lower-cost, brighter, and longer-lasting materials which — along with the recently developed NPS Roadway type face — will enhance message legibility and visitor safety. Traffic regulatory signs will follow Federal Highway Administration standards unless otherwise supplied.

Highway Guide Signs are placed on state roads outside of a park entrance and are intended to direct visitors to a park. Pathfinders serve as an additional assist in guiding visitors to specific park sites and features in urban and highly developed suburban environments. By displaying the NPS Arrowhead and other graphic elements, Pathfinders also help to reinforce park and agency identity. Boundary Signs designate the beginning of park land. These signs are useful in areas of multiple land ownership, or where it is better to place an entrance sign at a location other than the official park boundary. Road Guide Signs are placed on park roads to direct the first-time or infrequent visitor to facilities and areas within a park. MUTCD Regulatory and Warning Signs are used within a park to govern the operation of motor vehicles.

As required, MUTCD Regulatory and Warning Signs in the UniGuide System comply in content and appearance with Federal Highway Administration guidelines as expressed in the Manual for Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). The other three categories of UniGuide Motorist Guidance Signs meet or exceed MUTCD performance requirements, but they have a distinctive appearance from most road and highway guide signs. NPS signs will continue to have a brown background. However, the UniGuide Standards specify the use of the NPS Roadway typeface rather than Clarendon, the font currently used on NPS signs. The change was made because tests proved NPS Roadway to be more legible than Clarendon. Additionally, signs made with NPS Roadway can be 11.4% smaller than with Clarendon. Use of NPS Roadway, one of the two official NPS typefaces, helps reinforce NPS identity.

1.1 Highway Guide Signs

Highway Guide Signs are used on public highways and expressways to guide visitors to a park.



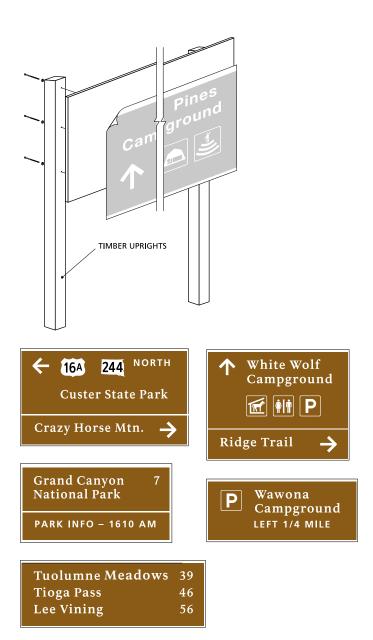


Adams National Historical Park NEXT EXIT



1.2 Road Guide Signs

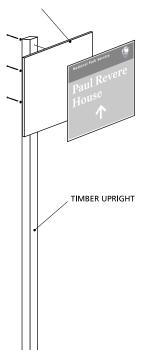
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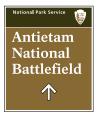


1.3 Pathfinder Signs

Pathfinders serve as an additional assist in guiding visitors to specific park sites and features in urban and highly developed suburban environments. By displaying the NPS Arrowhead and other graphic elements, Pathfinders also help to reinforce park and agency identity.











1.4 Boundary Signs

Boundary Signs designate the beginning of park land. These signs are useful in areas of multiple land ownership, or where it is better to place an entrance sign at a location other than the official park boundary.



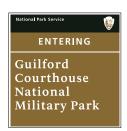


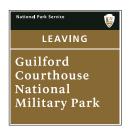












1.5 MUTCD Regulatory and Warning Signs

MUTCD Regulatory and Warning Signs are used within a park to govern the operation of motor vehicles.



